

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A composition comprising the peptide:
Y-W-S-A₁-C-S-A₂-C-G-Z (SEQ ID NO: 9)
wherein Y and Z comprise:
 - (a) N- and C- terminal ends of the peptide;
 - (b) amino acid chains consisting of ~~having~~ less than 6 amino acids; or
 - (c) chains of compounds which are not amino acids,wherein A₁ and A₂ are amino acid sequences comprising 1 to 5 amino acids (SEQ ID NOS: 97-168) and further wherein the peptide is not selected from the group consisting of one of the following sentences:
 - W-S-P-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:2),
 - W-S-S-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:3), and
 - W-S-Q-C-S-V-T-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:4).
2. (Withdrawn and Currently amended) The composition ~~peptide~~ according to claim 1, wherein said A₁ is Pro or -X₁-W-X₂-X₃- (SEQ ID NO:5), X₁, X₂, and X₃ being chosen, independently of each other, from G, S and C, denoted SEQ ID NOS:50-59.
3. (Withdrawn and Currently amended) The composition ~~peptide~~ according to claim 2, wherein said A₁ is -X₁-W-S-X₃-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:6 and 60-64.
4. (Withdrawn and Currently amended) The composition ~~peptide~~ according to claim 1, wherein said A₂ is selected from the group consisting of -R-S-, -V-S-, and -V-T-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:65-88.
5. (Currently amended) The composition ~~peptide~~ according to claim 3, wherein said peptide comprises at least the following amino acid sequence:
-W-S-X₁-W-S-X₃-C-S- A₂-C-G-, denoted SEQ ID NOS:7 and 89-96, wherein, X₁ and X₃ are independently selected from G, S and C.

6. (Currently amended) The composition ~~peptide~~ according to claim 4, wherein said peptide comprises the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) A method for treating a pathological condition or trauma requiring the regeneration of nervous system cells, said method comprising administering to a patient with said pathological condition or trauma an effective amount of a peptide according to claim 1, wherein the pathological condition or trauma is selected from the group consisting of a neuroblastoma or neural injury.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously presented) An additive for culturing nerve cells, comprising a peptide according to claim 1.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Previously presented) A peptide having at least the following amino acid sequence:

-W-S-G-W-S-S-C-S-R-S-C-G- (SEQ ID NO:8).

17. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peptide according to claim 16 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously presented) A method for treating a pathological condition or trauma requiring the regeneration of nervous system cells, said method comprising administering to a patient with said pathological condition or trauma an effective amount of a peptide according to claim 16, wherein the pathological condition or trauma is selected from the group consisting of a neuroblastoma or neural injury.

21. (Canceled)

22. (Previously presented) An additive for culturing nerve cells, comprising a peptide according to claim 16.

23. (Canceled)